

In the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, beginning at line 2:

This application is the U.S. national stage application of International patent application No. PCT/GB98/02214, filed July 24, 1998.

Please substitute the following paragraph on page 1, beginning at line 6:

The ability to determine the sequence of a polynucleotide is of great scientific importance. For example, the Human Genome Project is an ambitious international effort to map and sequence the three billion ~~basis~~ bases of DNA encoded in the human genome. When complete, the resulting sequence database will be a tool of unparalleled power for biomedical research. The major obstacle to the successful completion of this project concerns the technology used in the sequencing process.